

Application Serial No. 10/573,900

OT-5229

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This listing of claims replaces all prior versions and listings of claims in the application:

1. (Currently Amended) Safety device for elevators having no machine room and flexible tension member, the device comprising:

an upper median crosspiece forming part of an elevator car support arcade;

an electric contact; and

at least two rigid rods mounted sliding on the crosspiece and arranged symmetrically with respect to a median traction plane,

wherein the at least two rigid rods are adapted to move: (a) in an active outgoing position projecting from the crosspiece so as to come opposite and simultaneously in contact with a corresponding stop fixed at an adequate height on a guide rail; and (b), and the at least two rigid rods are adapted to move in an inactive incoming position so as to be out of range of the stop,

wherein the inactive incoming position corresponds corresponding to a normal operating mode of the elevator,

wherein the active outgoing position corresponds corresponding to a maintenance or inspection mode of the elevator,

wherein the electric contact is placed in series with a first control switch that authorizes functioning of the inspection or maintenance mode, and

wherein the electric contact is configured to be triggered, when the at least two rigid rods are in the outgoing position, thereby automatically closing the elevator functioning control circuit when the elevator car reaches a predetermined location.

2. (Previously Presented) Safety device according to claim 1, wherein the at least two rigid rods are mounted sliding in relation to each other on a trolley which is mounted sliding under the upper crosspiece.

3. (Previously Presented) Safety device according to claim 2, wherein the trolley is equipped with a control lever which allows the maneuvering of rods in either an outgoing or incoming position, the control lever can be locked by a dog clutch device or similar device.

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4. (Previously Presented) Safety device according to Claim 2, wherein each of the rods receives a spring element that is arranged to keep the rods in the outgoing position once they have been freed from the incoming position.

5. (Canceled).

6. (Previously Presented) Safety device according to claim 1, wherein the stop is a metal flat bar secured by bolts to a rear wall of the guide rail and cut with two symmetrically square folds with respect to a longitudinal plane of the rail, the folds each being arranged to receive the rod to stop the rods simultaneously.

7. (Previously Presented) Safety device according to claim 1, wherein the stop is an angle steel fixed by a clip rigidly tightened to the rail.

8. (Canceled).

9. (Previously Presented) Safety device according to claim 1, wherein the stop is placed on the car guide rail at a height to provide a minimum safety height of more than 180 cm.

10. (Previously Presented) Safety device according to claim 1, wherein the flexible tension members are ropes.

11. (Previously Presented) Safety device according to claim 1, wherein the flexible tension members are belts.

12. (Canceled).